Free grant of building materials to the poor people for the reconstruction of houses destroyed by accidental fires.

READ—

Government Order No. R. 2888-97—R. M. 16-25-3, dated 5th December 1925, enhancing the powers of the Sub-Division Officers and the Deputy Commissioners in the matter of granting building materials to sufferers from accidental fires to the extent of Rs. 50 and Rs. 75, respectively, in each case.

2. Government Order No. R. 6250-60—R. M. 1-30-62, dated 14th May 1931, empowering the Deputy Commissioners of Districts to grant relief in deserving cases up to a limit of Rs. 15 worth of unreserved wood from District Forests to persons who suffer loss from accidental fires irrespective of the fact that they pay no kandayam or pay kandayam less than Rs. 15.

3. Government Order No. G. 4070-3—Ft. 32-37-4, dated 23rd November 1937, sanctioning the free grant of building materials not exceeding Rs. 15 in value in each case, calculated at the existing seigniorage rates either from the District or State Forests for the construction of dwelling houses to applicants of all communities if they are found by the Deputy Commissioners to be poor and deserving.

4. Letter No. C. 4174—37-38, dated 18th May 1938, from the Revenue Commissioner in Mysore requesting orders, among other things, to extend the scope of the Government Order of 23rd November 1937 read above, so as to include cases where the free grant of building materials is required to re-build houses destroyed by fire as well.

5. Correspondence ending with letter No. D. 3—34-329—37, dated the 11th September 1939, from the Chief Conservator of Forests on the subject.

ORDER No. A. F. 1826-37—FT. 1-37-16, DATED BANGALORE, THE 14TH OCTOBER 1939.

Under the rules in force, the Revenue Officers had no powers to sanction the free grant of building materials from the State Forests either for the construction of dwelling houses or for the re-building of houses destroyed by accidental fires. But in their Order No. G. 4070-3—Ft. 32-37-4, dated 23rd November 1937, Government authorised the Deputy Commissioners to sanction the free grant of building materials not exceeding Rs. 15 in value from the State Forests also in deserving cases to the poor and deserving applicants of all communities for the construction of dwelling houses. The Revenue Commissioner thereupon requested Government to extend the scope of the Government order of 23rd November 1937, referred to above, so as to include cases of re-building of houses destroyed by accidental fire as well. This question which was engaging the attention of Government was brought up for discussion at the meeting of officers held on 14th August 1939, when it was agreed that the Deputy Commissioners may sanction the money value of the free grant and intimate the fact to the District Forest Officers who will thereupon issue *mafi licenses* specifying the names of the State Forests, etc., from which the materials should be removed. The Chief Conservator of Forests now recommends that this practice may be allowed to continue for a period of two years subject to revision thereafter if necessary. Government are pleased to sanction the same.

J. APPAJI GOWDA,
Secretary to Government,
General Department.

DEVELOPMENT SECRETARIAT

Administration Report of the Public Health Department for the calendar year 1938.

READ—

Report on the Administration of the Public Health Department for the calendar year 1938, received from the Director of Public Health in Mysore with his letter No. V. S. 290, dated 21st August 1939.

ORDER No. 3701-24—P. H. 22-39-3, DATED BANGALORE, THE 23RD—26TH OCTOBER 1939.

Recorded.

2. *Public Health.*—Except for a rise in the incidence of plague, public health was generally satisfactory. Five thousand, one hundred and ninety six deaths from

plague were reported during the year against 4,812 in the previous year, Mysore District reporting the largest number. In connection with the control of plague, in addition to the anti-plague inoculation and disinfection of houses, cyano-gas fumigation was recommended for adoption in various places. Six thousand, two hundred and eighty four houses were cyano-gased, 2,874 in the Kolar Gold Field Sanitary Board area, 100 in the Bangalore City and 3,310 in other places. Eight hundred and eighty deaths from cholera occurred during the year against 4,239 in the previous year. During the year, 789 deaths from small-pox were reported against 1,095 in the previous year. The number of vaccinations was 250,780.

Investigation into the causes of typhoid in Bangalore City was made in September last and action was taken on the several recommendations of the Committee.

3. *Vital Statistics.*—The revised system of registration and compilation of the statistics of births, deaths and marriages introduced in the Bangalore and Mysore Cities and on the Kolar Gold Fields and the districts of Bangalore and Shimoga have given good results.

The total number of births during the year was 150,410 (146,737), the computed birth-rate being 22·0 per mille of population as compared with 21·6 in the preceding year. The total number of deaths was 102,228 (102,118) giving a death-rate of 14·9 per 1,000 of population as against 15·1 in the previous year. The highest birth-rate (25·3) was reported by the Shimoga District and the lowest (21·9) by the Bangalore District. The total number of deaths among children under one year of age was 16,082 (15,567) giving an infant mortality rate of 106·9 against 106·1 in the previous year. The death rates exceeded the birth rates in the Hassan and Kadur Districts.

4. *Public Health Institute.*—Experimental work was continued in order to determine the standards of purity of most of the common articles of food with reference to their nutritional value. As a result thereof, action was taken to discourage the use of polished rice and to encourage the use of hand pounded rice. Experiments on other articles of food are being conducted. The income and expenditure of the Institute were Rs. 25,761 and Rs. 22,228 against Rs. 43,468 and Rs. 22,932 respectively, during the previous year.

5. *Bureau of Health Education.*—During the year, 190 cinema shows were arranged in different places in all the districts. Two Health Exhibitions were held, one at the Annual Dasara Exhibition at Mysore, where a large section on nutrition and its importance was newly added and the other at Hassan in connection with the State Women's Conference.

The Health Centre at Closepet continued to do good work. Village improvement work was started by the Health League in 18 new villages. Improvements were effected to several houses by providing latrines, soak pits, manure pits, and windows and by plastering and white-washing them.

6. *Bureau of Epidemiology—Malaria Control.*—Control of malaria is a very important public health problem in the State as malaria accounts for over 30 per cent of the total mortality. Control work was continued in the Cities of Bangalore and Mysore and in Hiriyur, Mudgere, Nagenahalli, Mandya and 10 selected villages in the Irwin Canal area. It was started in Chikmagalur and Sakrepatna also. Malaria survey was completed in Shimshapura, Belur, Jog and Devarayasamudram and in 10 villages in the Marconahalli area, 17 villages in the Closepet area and 2 villages close to Bangalore City as well as in the Alageshwar Tea Estates, the area around the Princess Krishnajammanni Sanatorium, Mysore and Balehalli village near Chikmagalur. The annual spleen and parasite survey of the Bangalore and Mysore Cities was done, as usual. The spleen rate for the Bangalore City was found to be 0·13 as against 0·31 in the previous year and the parasite rate 0·91 against 0·5. The spleen and parasite rates for Mysore City were 1·3 and 2·2 per cent against 2·6 and 7·2 in the previous year. Both malariol and Paris green were used as larvicides. The effects of malaria engineering measures were observed during the year in the 3 villages, Bevenahally, Kyathanagere and Sundahalli near Mandya.

The guinea-worm staff visited 960 villages during the year, 524 step wells were examined and 66 wells were newly stocked with fish. The larvicidal fish was renewed in 111 wells, and 19 wells were treated with perchloron.

The staff on hook-worm control carried on the work of propaganda and the construction of bore-hole latrines, in the villages where infection was found to be heavy. They visited 1,539 houses in 38 villages. One hundred and thirty bore-hole latrines were constructed during the year.

7. *Bureau of Sanitary Engineering.*—In addition to the work on water-supply scheme at Mysore, Bethamangala, Kolar, Hiriyur, Haribar, Shimoga, Sagar, Saklespur, Shikarpur and Hassan, 14 towns and villages were provided with protected water-supply.

Drainage.—The work of providing underground drainage in Bangalore City was well under way. Drainage works were completed in Hassan and in 9 other places; they were in various stages of progress in Tumkur, Arsikere and in 7 other places. Comprehensive drainage projects and estimates were prepared for 5 towns.

Sanitary Fitting and Installations.—Sanitary fitting and installations were made to some hospitals, colleges and offices both in Bangalore and Mysore Cities and in some buildings in the mofussil.

Town Planning and Survey.—Plans for the improved lay out of 5 places and type designs of slaughter-houses, mutton stalls and rat proof dwelling houses were prepared during the year.

Bore-wells.—Bore-wells were completed in 9 places and were in progress in 12 other places.

8. *Important Measures.*—Among the important events of the year may be mentioned (1) the training of 25 students in the Sanitary Inspectors Training Class, (2) the appointment of four health probationers, (3) the deputation of Dr. G. M. Dominick to Bombay to study the manufacture of plague vaccine, (4) the deputation of Mr. E. R. Sundararajan as a delegate to attend the All-India Population and Family Hygiene Conference at Bombay, (5) the deputation of Mr. B. Ananthaswamy Rao to Malaya, Ceylon and Pattukottai for the study of malaria, and (6) the deputation of Mr. K. S. Krishnaswamy to America for advanced study in Sanitary Engineering on a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship.

9. *Expenditure of the Department.*—The total expenditure on account of Public Health in the State during the year was Rs. 33·1 lakhs as detailed below against Rs. 27·5 lakhs during the previous year :—

		Rs.
1. Health Administration ...	...	14,61,000
2. Water-supplies ...	...	15,32,000
3. Drainage ...	...	2,80,000
4. Sanitary Fittings ...	...	37,000
Total	...	33,10,000

10. The work of the department was satisfactory during the year.

P. H. KRISHNA RAO,
Secretary to Government,
Development Department.

Administration Report of the Stamp Department for the year 1938-39.

READ—

Letter No. Per. 20—38-39, dated the 2nd October 1939, from the Commissioner of Stamps in Mysore, forwarding the report on the working of the Stamp Department for the year 1938-39.

ORDER NO. FL. 2250-60—ST. 12-39-2, DATED CAMP MYSORE, THE 24TH OCTOBER 1939.

Recorded.

P. H. KRISHNA RAO,
Secretary to Government,
Development Department.